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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

HAMILTON, LALITA M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3624

DATE MAILED: 11/03/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/830,742

Applicant(s)

YOSHIDA ET AL.

Examiner

Lalita M Hamilton

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10282004.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

Claims 1-6, 10-19, and 21 are objected to because of the following informalities: In claims 1, 10, 13-14, 18-19, and 21, the use of "his" is improper. In claims 10 and 14, the use of "it" and "itself" is improper. In claims 12-13, "pass word" should be "password". The remaining claims are objected because of their dependency upon objected claims. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-21 are rejected for the following reasons:

In claims 1, 5, 10, 14, 18, and 19-21, "user" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 1, "conclusion" and "purchased-goods-item-price" lack antecedent basis.

In claims 2 and 6, "confirmation" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 3, "set state" and "confirmation screen" lack antecedent basis.

In claim 4, "confirmation screen" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 5, "order" lacks antecedent basis.

In claims 7-9, "state of the payment" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 9, "commission or interest rate" lacks antecedent basis.

In claims 10 and 14, "purchasing operation" and "database file" lack antecedent basis.

In claims 11-12 and 16, "database file" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 14, "procedure" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 15, "contents" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 18, "purchasing operation" and "price payment" lack antecedent basis.

In claim 20, "database file" and "operation" lack antecedent basis.

In claim 21, "price" lacks antecedent basis.

The remaining claims are rejected because of their dependency upon rejected claims.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Veil (6,092,202).

Veil discloses a method and corresponding system for secure transactions in a computer system comprising electronically purchasing an item of goods, the method of electronically purchasing an item of goods being adapted to purchase an item of goods by means of a terminal apparatus connected to a server through a prescribed communication line, including the step in which the server accumulates data regarding

Art Unit: 3624

the user who has purchased an item of goods to thereby prepare for enabling the conclusion of a credit contract and the step in which when the user has performed his purchasing operation for purchasing an item of goods through the operation of the terminal apparatus and when data regarding the user who has performed his purchasing operation is accumulated on the server, it has been arranged that, using the accumulated data, there is performed setting for performing the payment of the purchased-goods-item price (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the confirmation of the user is made by user's inputting a prescribed password (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the set state based on the use of the accumulated data is displayed on a user to confirm that set state; and simultaneously, by way of that confirmation screen, the set state can be corrected by the user's input operation according screen of the terminal apparatus so as for the to the necessity (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); on the confirmation screen, it is arranged that only the items of particulars alone corrected be displayed having the possibility of being corrected be displayed (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); electronically purchasing an item of goods being adapted to purchase an item of goods by means of a terminal apparatus connected to a server through a prescribed communication line, includes the step in which when a credit payment has been selected at the time of the user's purchasing operation for purchasing an item of goods on the terminal apparatus, the server requests the user who operates the terminal apparatus to send a written contract of credit, the step in which at the time when the written contract has been returned according to the formally accepts the order

Art Unit: 3624

of the item of goods the purchasing server's request, the server operation of that has the step in apparatus is the one who was already contracted to the server by way of a written contract of credit, the server formally accepts the order of the item of goods the purchasing operation of that been performed by the user, and which when the user operating the terminal has been performed (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the confirmation of that the user operating the terminal apparatus is the one who was already contracted to the server by way of a written contract of credit is performed by user's inputting a prescribed password (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); electronically purchasing an item of goods being adapted to purchase an item of goods by means of a terminal apparatus connected to a server through a prescribed communication line, including the step in which when a credit payment has been selected through the user's purchasing operation of an item of goods by the terminal apparatus, a simulated result of the state of payment made with respect to the price of the item of goods purchased is displayed on the screen of the terminal apparatus, and the step in which after the display of the simulated result, the server causes the user purchase of the item of goods (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the simulation of the state of payment is the one that is based on the payment frequency and payment starting date that have been set according to the user's operation (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); simulation of the state of payment is estimated based on the item of goods that is to be purchased or the commission or interest rate that has been set every supplier handling that item of goods (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); a method of

Art Unit: 3624

electronically purchasing an item of goods, the method of electronically purchasing an item of goods being adapted to perform the purchasing operation for purchasing an item of goods by means of a terminal apparatus connected to a server through a prescribed communication line, including the step in which the server has beforehand within a database file it possesses inside itself data that regards the user who has performed his purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus, the step in purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus the server searches whether the data regarding the user exists in the database file, and which when the user has performed his the step in which in case the data regarding the user exists within the database file, the server performs its goods-item order accepting procedures by the use of that data regarding the user (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); in case the data regarding the user does not exist within the database file, the server requests the user to input the data regarding the user and the step in which the server holds within the database file the data regarding the user that has been input in that step (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); when the server holds the data regarding the user within the database file, the server notifies a specific password to the user (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the server requests the user to input his password, whereby, in the step in that the server searches the data regarding the user within the database file, the server searches the data regarding the user by the use of the password the user has input (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the method of electronically purchasing an item of goods being adapted to perform the purchasing operation for purchasing an item of goods by means of a

Art Unit: 3624

terminal apparatus connected to a server through a prescribed communication line, including the step in which the server has beforehand within a database file it possesses inside itself data that regards the user who has performed his purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus, when the user has performed his purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus, the server searches whether the data regarding the user exists in the database file, the step in which the step in which in case the data regarding the user does not exist within the database file, the server sends to the user a price-payment written contract following the purchase of the item of goods, and the step in which in case the data regarding the user exists within the database file, the server performs its goods-item order accepting procedures by the set of that data regarding the user by omitting the procedure of sending the price-payment written contract (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); price payment written contract that has been sent back on from the user, and the step in which the server confirms the contents of the price payment written contract that has been input in that step to thereby perform the procedure of accepting the order for the item of goods (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); in case the data regarding the user does not exist within the database file, the server requests the user to input the data regarding the user and the step in which the server holds within the database file the data regarding the user that has been input in that step (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); the server produces the price payment written contract according to the data regarding the user that has been input (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); a method of electronically purchasing an item of

Art Unit: 3624

goods, the method of electronically purchasing an item of goods being adapted to perform the purchasing operation for purchasing an item of goods by means of a terminal apparatus connected to a server through a prescribed communication line, including the step in which the server requests the user, who has performed his purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus, to input the price payment terms for his purchased item of goods, and the server shows to the user, according to the price payment terms input in that step, the circumstances where the price of the item of goods, with respect to that the user has performed his purchasing operation, is paid (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); a commercial-transaction apparatus, the commercial-adapted to perform a goods-item transaction apparatus being order acceptance procedure according to the user's goods-item purchasing operation that is performed from a terminal apparatus connected to the server via a prescribed communication line, including storage means for holding beforehand data regarding the purchasing operation by the use of user who has performed his purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus, whether the data regarding the user exists within the storage, goods-item order acceptance procedure means for, in case the data regarding the user exists within the storage means, and performing the goods-item order acceptance procedure by the use of the data regarding the user (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); a commercial-transaction apparatus, the commercial-transaction apparatus being adapted to perform a goods-item order acceptance procedure according to the user's goods-item purchasing operation that is performed from a terminal apparatus connected to the server via a

Art Unit: 3624

prescribed communication line, including storage means for holding beforehand data regarding the user who has performed his the terminal apparatus, purchasing operation by the use of search means for searching, when the his purchasing operation by the use of user has performed the terminal apparatus, whether the data regarding the user exists means, within the storage means, written contract production means, and goods-item order acceptance procedure means (col.9, line 35 to col.10, line 30 and col.11, lines 29-44); and a commercial-transaction apparatus, the commercial-transaction apparatus being adapted to perform a goods-item order acceptance procedure according to the user's goods-item purchasing operation that is performed from a terminal apparatus connected to the server via a prescribed communication line, including input-requesting means for requesting the user, who has performed his purchasing operation by the use of the terminal apparatus, to input the price payment terms for purchasing the item of goods, and payment circumstances presentation means for presenting, according to the price payment terms that have been input in that input-requesting means, the circumstances where of the item of goods, the price with respect to that the user has performed his purchasing operation, is paid.

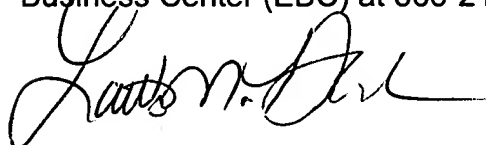
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Lalita M Hamilton whose telephone number is (703) 306-5715. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday-Thursday (8:30-4:30).

Art Unit: 3624

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (703) 308-1065. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. M. H.", is written over the printed name "LMH".

LMH